and efficient machinery capable of producing 3,000 tons of soaps per annum; but, the proposals were finally deferred in 1948. Subsequently in August 1950, the Government, however, sanctioned an expenditure of Rs. 1,34,800 towards the purchase of machinery for the replacement of worn-out ones in the Institute to be spread over a period of three years.

"(*b*) Orders were placed for the supply of machineries sanctioned for the years 1950–51 and 1951–52.

"(*c*) The machineries ordered for the years 1950–51 and 1951–52 have been received and will be installed during the current year."

SRI M. NARAYANA KURUP :—"In view of the fact that there has been deterioration in the efficiency of the Institute and the profits therefrom, may I know why the scheme of rationalization has not been given effect to expeditiously though the machinery came long before?"

THE HON. DR. U. KRISHNA RAO :—" Sir, I do not agree that the efficiency of the Institute has gone down but still I may tell the hon. Member why we are not able to put up the machinery. Two more motors have got to come. Also we have to put up a separate building to install this machinery. I have inspected this Institute. The work is being started and it will be completed, I hope, in the course of the year."

SRI C. RAJAM RAMASWAMI :—" May I know the present output of the factory and whether the output is finding a ready sale?"

THE HON. DR. U. KRISHNA RAO :—" I would like to have notice so far as the present output is concerned but we are having a good sale."

Alleged irregularities in P.C.C. societies in Malabar.

* 143 Q.—SRI M. NARAYANA KURUP (on behalf of Dr. K. B. Menon): Will the Hon. the Minister for Co-operation be pleased to state—

(*a*) the number of Producers-cum-Consumers Co-operative Societies in Malabar engaged in the procurement and distribution of foodgrains in which grave irregularities like embezzlement of funds, theft of fooodgrains and other large-scale frauds were discovered during the years 1948–52;

(*b*) the number of such cases in which such office-bearers were prosecuted;

(*c*) the number of cases in which civil action was taken;

(*d*) the number of cases in which no action was taken at all; and

(*e*) the number of cases in which action was taken but dropped at a later stage?

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THE HON. SRI D. SANJIVAYYA :—" (a) Twenty.

" (b) Office-bearers were prosecuted in 11 cases.

" (c) Legal action was taken in 22 cases.

" (d) & (e) Nil."

Construction of a wharf for Coondapur Port, South Kanara.

* 144 Q.—SRI Y. MANJAYA SHETTY : Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(a) at what cost and when a wharf was constructed for Coondapur Port in South Kanara district;

(b) to whom the work was entrusted and by whom and whether a public tender was called for; and

(c) whether the Government have discovered that the said wharf is not properly constructed and the same has to be repaired urgently at a heavy cost?

THE HON. SRI N. RANGA REDDI :—" (a) The actual cost of the work was Rs. 1,07,691. The work was completed on 9th December 1951.

" (b) Public tenders were called for with due publicity through the dailies, etc., and the work was entrusted, after approval by Government, to Messrs. Koganti Narayana Rao and Doddi Appalaswamy of Kakinada who were the lowest tenderers.

" (c) Some pits have formed at certain places on the reclaimed portion in rear of the wharf wall. No repairs are reported to be necessary to the wharf wall itself. The causes for the formation of the depressions are being looked into by the Assistant Engineer (Marine)."

SRI Y. MANJAYA SHETTY :—" Will the Government depute an eminent engineer to report about the manner of construction as well as the present condition of the wharf and if an unfavourable report is received, will the Government take suitable action against the particular persons who are responsible for wasting huge sums of public money?"

THE HON. SRI N. RANGA REDDI :—" I have already said that the causes for the formation of the depressions are being looked into by the Assistant Engineer (Marine). After his report is received, we will have to consider whether there has been any waste and so on."

Palm Jaggery Co-operative Societies.

* 145 Q.—SRI PRAGADA KOTAIAH : Will the Hon. the Minister for Prohibition be pleased to state—

(a) the number of Palm Jaggery Co-operative Societies formed in the Guntur district for the benefit of ex-toddy tappers and the number of members working in those societies;

(b) the average monthly earning of a member working in the society;